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203 Seniors

Graduation set for Thursday at 8 p.m.

Two-hundred and three students will participate in Commencement Exercises for the 1981 graduating Seniors at Appomattox County High School on Thursday, June 4, 1981, at 8:00 p.m. at the Appomattox Middle School Stadium. In case of inclement weather, exercises will be held in the auditorium at Appomattox County High School.

Baccalaureate services were held on Sunday evening, May 31, at 8:00 p.m. in the Appomattox County High School auditorium. The speaker was Rev. Rex Bennett minister of the Liberty Baptist Church, Appomattox, and music selection were presented by the ACHS chorus.

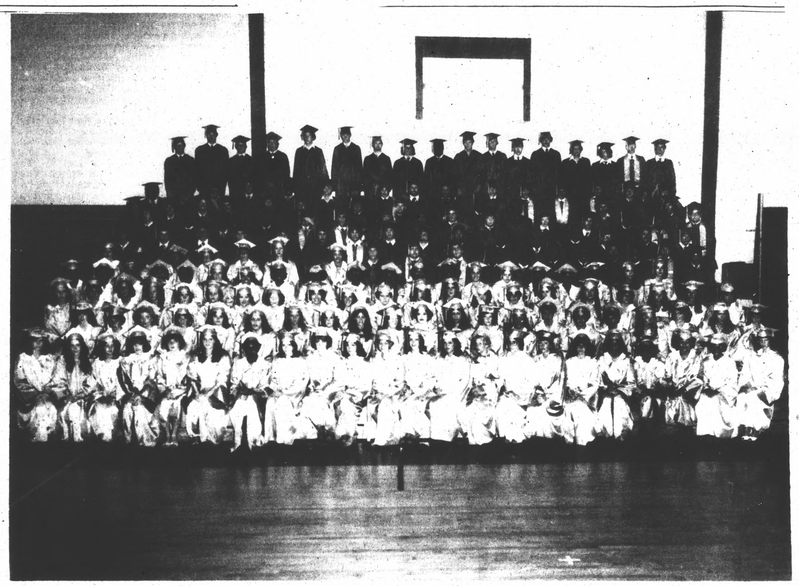
Mr. Donald L. Armentrout, principal of Appomattox County High School, Mr. John McLean, assistant principal, and Mr. Henry Battle, a class sponsor, will award diplomas and certificates to the graduating seniors on Thursday evening.

Class speakers will be co-valedictorians, Keith Dickerson and Nugene Harvey, and co-salutatorians, Randall Franklin and Philip Jacobs. Kenny Wayne Burks, senior class president, will give the welcome.

Dean Page, composer of the song, will lead the senior class in the class song. The Fanfare and Processional will be played by the Appomattox County High School Band, under the direction of Mr. Frank Coffey. The invocation and benediction will be given by Rev. John D. Scruggs.

Class officers are Kenny Wayne Burks, president; Lisa Wenning, vice-president; Susan Shorter, secretary; Steve Poole, treasurer; Tammy Bates, parliamentarian; Anne Hunter, reporter; and Kelly Hunter, chaplain.

Motto for the class of '81 is "If it's worth doing, it's worth doing right." Class colors are blue and gray. Class sponsors are Mrs. Harriette Beasley, Mr. Henry Battle, Mr. John McLean and Mr. Donald Armentrout.



TWO-HUNDRED AND THREE seniors at Appomattox County High School will receive awards in commencement exercises at Bragg Stadium, Appomattox County Middle School, this Thursday night. The ceremonies will begin at 8 p.m. [Photo by Shearer Robertson]

Body discovered in James River

The badly decomposed body of a man found Monday afternoon in the James River in Nelson County, and authorities believe it may be the same body which was reported Friday in Appomattox County.

A spokesman from the Nelson County Sheriff's Department said Tuesday that two canoeists discovered the body floating in the James River 3/4 of a mile upriver from Howardsville in Nelson County at around 5:45 p.m. Monday.

The body is apparently the same one which was reported by a fisherman near Stonewall in Appomattox County Friday afternoon, according to authorities.

The Nelson County Sheriff's Department spokesman said that the body may be that of a man reported missing from Lynchburg Friday.

Because of the decomposed condition of the body, however, confirmation of that suspicion will depend on the results of a state medical examiner's report.

The body was sent to Richmond to be examined for positive identification, according to the spokesman.

Justus resigns post: coach's position open

Stuart Justus, head football coach and athletic director at Appomattox County High School for the past four years, left the county Friday to accept a permanent position as assistant hospital administrator at Grundy Hospital in Southwest Virginia.

Justus, who has been in high school coaching for ten years, compiled a career coaching record of 76 wins, 25 losses and one tie.

While in Appomattox, Justus had season records of 4-6,10-2, 7-3, and 6-3-1. In 1978 his team was the regional runner-up for the season.

As of the press time Tuesday, there was no official word as to who Justus' replacement would be as head football coach.

However, several coaches had been interviewed, and a prime candidate for the spot was said to be Gary Cuccio, currently football coach at Rockbridge High School in Rockbridge County, Va.

Board to meet, discuss Title I cuts

The Appomattox County School Board will meet in regular session on Wednesday, June 10, at 3:00 p.m. in the School Board office on Main Street.

A report on the progress of the Appomatox Middle School alterations project will be heard at this meeting in addition to a report on the progress of the school building survey committee.

Reduction of Title I Activities for the 1981-82 session will be discussed as well as the 1981-82 Special Education Program and proposed summer recreation program.

ANN SMITH OF THE PAMPLIN Elementary School gazes into the deep hole that suddenly appeared in the parking lot at Pamplin Elementary School. It appears that the hole is an old, hand-dug well. "We are sure it is a hand-dug well," said Mayor James Webb. "But elderly citizens of Pamplin cannot recall a well on this site or even a building on this site." It is believed the well is at least 100 years old. The hole, which appeared suddenly on May 12, right after a rain, is about 18 inches across and the first day it was about three feet deep. The second day it was seven feet deep; it has not changed since.

Father Darkleaf

By CALVIN ROBINSON

Anyway June starts is great, because June is a favorite month. It is the month of brides and graduates. And of early gardens, longer days and early vacations. Summer begins, but does not lead off with its hottest weather. Hundreds of things to do, every hour a challenge. Ah yes, and as an omen, June 1 brought us needed rain. "And what is so rare as a day in June?" My answer: June itself, all of it.

The ACHS baseball team is still being written about. The veteran sports writer, Al Smith, in his column in Friday's Farmville HERALD devoted most of the column to our Raiders and their coach, Howard Clabough and Smith's column this week will feature a career story on Coach Clabough.

* * *

Add Apomattox publicity...on the TV program Tic Dough Friday a category was "famous sites." And the contestant was asked to locate the McLean House and end of the Civil War. No hesitation, "Appomattox."

A feature news article in a state paper started off with this sentence: "A deep hole that suddenly appeared in the parking lot at Pamplin Elementary School recently is being investigated for possible historical significance." Experts have been called in and suggest it is an old well over a hundred years old and may contain items of great interest.

* * *

Many from our area go to Charlotte, N. C. to watch the auto races. Often at a race there will be over 100,000 racing fans in attendance. Among those at a recent race were Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Hudson, of Appomattox and thanks to them for bringing me a copy of The Charlotte OBSERVER. Mr. Hudson is employed in Lynchburg and Mrs. Hudson is a local school bus driver.

* * *

What song is most sung? Someone has awarded the honor to one composer by two sisters of Knoxville, Tenn. About 1893 they composed a song and called it "Good Morning To You." Got a fair reception and much later they came up with new words and a new title and now it is "Happy Birthday To You."

* * *

Some years ago I accepted an offer to receive a different British magazine each month for a year. Have just found some I saved and in "The Countryman" found an article called "The Importance of Being Ignorant." We live in an age of specialists and skilled craftsmen and it is important to develop talents. Yet, there is a point in sharing labor and knowledge. No one knows it all. I am ignorant in so many ways. No one asks me to repair an appliance, or fix their car. Nor to help fill out a tax form or prepare a budget. Or where to find fishing worms, find a lost dog or mix paint. Things I know I am proud to share, things I do not know I am quick to admit. Maybe one can find a bit of satisfaction in honest ignorance provided it is not a result of laziness or lack of interest. Try hard, do your best and never be afraid to say, "I do not know, tell me." Thanks for reading and seeya around.

AMS: a place of transition

By FRANCES H. PAULETTE

The Appomattox Middle School . . . a place of transition.

The years spent at the Appomattox Middle School bring the student from childhood years to beginning manhood and womanhood. While this period may be brief it is vitally important to the development of a student. No one realizes this more than Mrs. Hetzeine Foster, principal of the Appomattox Middle School, and the teachers with whom she works.

"Caring, truly caring, helps our students to be successful while they are here," says Mrs. Foster. "My teachers are very special to me: they know how I feel and what I expect of them. They know I expect them to have a caring attitude too," she continued.

Foster, a native of Charlotte County, is a graduate of Bluefield State College and received a Master's Degree from Virginia State.

With approximately 400 students enrolled in the seventh and eighth grades at AMS, the school stresses positive self-image so the student will feel good about himself. Teachers guide students to make wise decisions.

In addition to the basics of reading, writing and math, the school provides a wide range of educational experience, provides for individual and common needs of the students; promotes good relationship with home, school and community.

"We carry a basic skills program that was begun in elementary school and we carry on with it," says Foster.

In addition, the school, as a regular part of the curriculum, offers Conflict Management. This unit of study teaches students how to get along with parents, other students and teachers.

"If I don't get anything else across I want the students to be able to be good citizens in the community . . . to have good moral standards, to be good clean citizens," says Foster.

The AMS offers group or individualized counseling to students.

"If there are personality conflicts or a specific problem, I am happy to say, Mrs. Bolling Carter, the guidance counselor, makes time for that student, however busy her schedule," commented Foster.

The key, according to the principal of AMS, is to let students know that teachers and counselors care and are willing to help them . . . not at a later convenient time, but exactly when they need it.

"I love working with the age group we have at AMS," says Foster. "We get excellent cooperation from parents. My teachers here call the parents of the students they teach for suggestions and help," she continued.

Open faculty meetings are a regular part of the schedule at AMS. Teachers there are expected to be truly involved in their work, and this means listening, really listening at faculty meetings, offering suggestions and taking part in discussions.

"Working together is the key . . . teacher, pupil, and parents," says Mrs. Foster.

The faculty at Appomattox Middle School tries to make all students aware of opportunities and to make tentative plans for career study.

Miss Pat Hudson, teacher of seventh grade Exploratory Home Economics, is concerned about the total child and not just the subject matter which she teaches.

"While my subject is Home Economics," said Hudson, I'm equally, or even more concerned with instilling in my students a feeling of self-confidence, good manners, and the ability to get along and work well with other people."

There are classes in special education to meet many needs at AMS, Educable Mentally Retarded, Speech Impaired, Learning Disabled, Visual Impaired, and Gifted and Talented. And there is more . . . there is 'caring' to make the transition period easier.

Gaining a feeling of self-confidence, feeling good about themselves and at the same time getting the necessary amount of 'reading, 'riting, and 'rithmetic' . . . that's the Appomattox Middle School.

Elaine Wilson chosen

Constance Elaine Wilson, a junior at ACHS and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John L. Wilson of Route 1, Appomattox, Virginia, will attend the Virginia Tech 5 weeks Program for Superior Rising Seniors at Blacksburg, Va., from June 16-July 22, 1961.

The program is conduested for highly qualified students about to enter their senior year of high school. It is designed to introduce students to concepts and involving them in research. College credits will be received. Courses will be Freshman English Literature and Freshman College Mathematics, plus an elective course.

Students will write, study composition, and read widely from selected novels, short stories, and plays. Specific topics to be used in mathematics include matrices, probability, and linear modeling.

Elaine assumes many major responsibilities at Appomattox County High School; namely the Yearbook Staff, National Honor Society, Drama Club, Gifted and Talented Program, Future Business of America, and Spanish Club. She excels in the area of creative writing. Several of her poems appeared in the ACHS literary magazine, "The Inkslinger."

Elaine's career field will be engineering. Nominated by the ACHS faculty for the 1981 Governor's School for the Gifted, Elaine will contribute her part to the stimulating academic opportunity, generally not available at the high school level, in the comprehensive university environment at Virginia Tech.

MISS PAT HUDSON and a group of her Seventh Grade Exploratory Home Economics students pose with various things that signify the areas of study they explore in one semester of Home Ec at the Middle School. Seated, from left to right, Reva Hammer, Karen Trent, Sandra Christian and Chrissy Gaynor. Standing, from left to right, Ron Scruggs, April Moore, Pat Lewis, Teresa Austin, Miss Hudson, Teacher, Teresa Everton, and Tina Russell. (Photo by Bill Sherrod)